

records and information for reconstructing doses for individual members of the class under the methods of 42 CFR part 82, and a description of the evaluation methods and information upon which these findings are based; and

(5) For a class for which it is not feasible to estimate radiation doses with sufficient accuracy, a summary of the basis for establishing the duration of employment requirement with respect to health endangerment.

**§ 83.14 How will NIOSH evaluate a petition by a claimant whose dose reconstruction NIOSH could not complete under 42 CFR part 82?**

(a) NIOSH may establish two classes for evaluation, to permit the timely adjudication of the existing cancer claim:

(1) A class of employees defined using the research and analyses already completed in attempting the dose reconstruction for the employee identified in the claimant's petition; and

(2) A class of co-workers similar to the class defined under paragraph (a)(1) of this section, to be defined by NIOSH on the basis of further research and analyses, using the procedures under § 83.13.

(b) NIOSH will determine the health endangerment criteria for adding the class under paragraph (a)(1) of this section to the Cohort, using the procedures under § 83.13. NIOSH will report to the Board and to petitioner(s) the results of this determination, together with its finding under 42 CFR part 82 that there was insufficient information to complete the dose reconstruction. HHS will consider this finding under 42 CFR part 82 sufficient, without further consideration, to determine that it is not feasible to estimate the levels of radiation doses of individual members of the class with sufficient accuracy.

(c) NIOSH will evaluate the petition as it may concern a class of co-workers, as described under paragraph (a)(2) of this section, according to the procedures under § 83.13.

**§ 83.15 How will the Board consider and advise the Secretary on a petition?**

(a) NIOSH will publish a notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER providing notice of

a Board meeting at which a petition will be considered, and summarizing the petition to be considered by the Board at the meeting and the findings of NIOSH from evaluating the petition.

(b) The Board will consider the petition and the NIOSH evaluation report at the meeting, to which the petitioner(s) will be invited to present views and information on the petition and the NIOSH evaluation findings. In considering the petition, both NIOSH and the members of the Board will take all steps necessary to prevent the disclosure of information of a personal nature, concerning the petitioners or others, where disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

(c) In considering the petition, the Board may obtain and consider additional information not addressed in the petition or the initial NIOSH evaluation report.

(d) NIOSH may decide to further evaluate a petition, upon the request of the Board. If NIOSH conducts further evaluation, it will report new findings to the Board and the petitioner(s).

(e) Upon the completion of NIOSH evaluations and deliberations of the Board concerning a petition, the Board will develop and transmit to the Secretary a report containing its recommendations. The Board's report will include the following:

(1) The identification and inclusion of the relevant petition(s);

(2) The definition of the class of employees covered by the recommendation;

(3) A recommendation as to whether or not the Secretary should designate the class as an addition to the Cohort;

(4) The relevant criteria under § 83.13(c) and findings and information upon which the recommendation is based, including NIOSH evaluation reports, information provided by the petitioners, any other information considered by the Board, and the deliberations of the Board.

**§ 83.16 How will the Secretary decide the outcome(s) of a petition?**

(a) The Director of NIOSH will propose a decision to add or deny adding any class or classes of employees to the Cohort, including an iteration of the

relevant criteria, as specified under § 83.13(c), and a summary of the information and findings on which the proposed decision is based. This proposed decision will take into consideration the evaluations of NIOSH and the report and recommendations of the Board, and may also take into consideration information presented or submitted to the Board and the deliberations of the Board. In the case of a petition that NIOSH has determined encompasses more than one class of employees, the Director of NIOSH will issue a separate proposed decision for each separate class of employees.

(b) The Secretary will make the final decision to add or deny adding a class to the Cohort, including the definition of the class, after considering information and recommendations provided to the Secretary by the Director of NIOSH and the Board. HHS will transmit a report of the decision to the petitioner(s), including an iteration of the relevant criteria, as specified under § 83.13(c), and a summary of the information and findings on which the decision is based. HHS will also publish a notice summarizing the decision in the *FEDERAL REGISTER*.

(c) If, under § 83.15(e), the Board recommends that the Secretary designate a class covered by the petition as an addition to the Cohort, and if, under paragraph (b) of § 83.16, the Secretary decides to deny adding the class, as defined by the Board, to the Cohort, then the Secretary will submit to Congress a determination that the statutory criteria specified under 42 U.S.C. 7384q(b)(1) and (2) have not been met for adding the class to the Cohort. The Secretary will submit this determination to Congress within 30 calendar days following receipt by the Secretary of the recommendation of the Board.

[70 FR 75953, Dec. 22, 2005]

**§ 83.17 How will the Secretary report a final decision to add a class of employees to the Cohort and any action of Congress concerning the effect of the final decision?**

(a) If the Secretary designates a class of employees to be added to the Cohort, the Secretary will transmit to Congress a report providing the designation, the definition of the class of em-

ployees covered by the designation, and the criteria and findings upon which the designation was based.<sup>4</sup>

(b) If, under § 83.15(e), the Board recommends that the Secretary designate a class covered by the petition as an addition to the Cohort, and if, under paragraph (b) of § 83.16, the Secretary decides to add a class to the Cohort that is inclusive of the class as defined by the Board, then the Secretary will transmit to Congress the report specified in paragraph (a) of this section within 30 calendar days following receipt by the Secretary of the recommendation of the Board.

(c) A designation of the Secretary will take effect 30 calendar days after the date on which the report of the Secretary under paragraph (a) of this section is submitted to Congress, or is deemed to have been submitted to Congress,<sup>5</sup> unless Congress takes an action that reverses or expedites the designation.

(d) After either the expiration of the congressional review period or notification of final congressional action, whichever comes first, the Secretary will transmit to DOL and to the petitioner(s) a report providing the definition of the class and one of the following outcomes:

(1) The addition of the class to the Cohort; or

(2) The result of any action by Congress to reverse or expedite the decision of the Secretary to add the class to the Cohort.

(e) The report specified under paragraph (d) of this section will be published on the Internet at <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/ocas> and in the *FEDERAL REGISTER*.

[69 FR 30780, May 28, 2004, as amended at 70 FR 75953, Dec. 22, 2005]

<sup>4</sup> See 42 U.S.C. 7384l(14)(C)(ii).

<sup>5</sup> Under 42 U.S.C. 7384q(c)(2)(C), if the Secretary does not submit within 30 days the determination required under paragraph (a) of § 83.17 of this part, then on the following day, "it shall be deemed" that the Secretary submitted the report specified under paragraph (b) of § 83.17 of this part.